IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A metal bellows tube wherein sectional shapes of a ridge and a valley in a bellows-shaped tube wall are V-shaped.

2. (Original) The metal bellows tube of claim 1, wherein the pitch of the bellows is 1.5 mm or less, and the height of the ridge is 0.5 - 4.0 mm.

3. (Original) The metal bellows tube of claim 2, wherein the thickness of the wall of the bellows-shaped tube is 0.1 - 0.3 mm.

4. (Currently Amended) The metal bellows tube of claim 1 ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the tube has an outside diameter of 4.5 - 20 mm.

5. (Original) A method of producing a metal bellows tube, which comprises preparing a metal bellows fundamental tube wherein sectional shapes of a ridge and a valley in a bellows-shaped tube wall are U-shaped, compressing said fundamental tube in the longitudinal direction to bring adjacent ridges and valleys of the bellows-shaped tube wall into close contact with each other, further pressure-forming the tube until the inside space of each ridge and the gap between adjacent ridges substantially disappear by pressing, and then stretching, in the longitudinal direction of the tube, the fundamental tube after the pressure forming until a peak-to-peak gap of the adjacent ridges reaches a predetermined distance.

6. (Original) The production method of claim 5, wherein the peak-to-peak gap between adjacent ridges is 1.5 mm or less, and the height of the ridge is 0.5 - 4.0 mm, after stretching, in the longitudinal direction of the tube, of the above fundamental tube after the pressure forming.

7. (Original) A flexible tube for a high-pressure fluid, which is capable of transferring a high-pressure fluid of 70 MPa, and which comprises a metal bellows tube and a tubular metal braid covering the outside of said tube, wherein
the metal bellows tube has been formed such that a ridge and a valley in the bellows-shaped tube

wall have a V-shaped sectional shape,
the tubular metal braid has both ends joined with the respectively corresponding both ends of the metal bellows tube, and
the total sectional area S of the metal braid member and the material of the metal strand are determined so as to satisfy
$(\sigma \times \cos(\theta/2))/n \geq F/S$
wherein F [N] is a force of a high-pressure fluid which acts to stretch a metal bellows tube, S [mm^2] is the total sectional area of a metal strand appearing on the cross-section of the metal braid, a crossing angle θ of the metal braid = 50 - 120 degrees, σ [MPa] is a tensile strength of the material of said metal strand, and n is a safety factor.

8. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the force F is 1374 - 17813 [N] and the safety factor n is 4.

9. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the high-pressure fluid is a hydrogen gas or a mixture of a hydrogen gas and liquid hydrogen.

10. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the both ends of the metal bellows tube have a metal pipe as a mouth piece, and the mouth piece is joined with the end of the metal braid by welding or brazing.

11. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the end of the metal braid is joined with a mouth piece by brazing, the end of the metal braid is furnished with a braid presser ring covering the braid, the metal braid and the braid presser ring are brazed to the mouth piece, with the end faces approximately at an even position, the braid presser ring has a through hole that exposes the metal braid at a predetermined position from the end face, and the through hole allows confirmation of penetration of a solder in the braid at least to the predetermined position.

12. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the end of the metal braid is joined with a mouth piece by brazing, the end of the metal braid is furnished with a braid presser ring

covering the braid, the metal braid and the braid presser ring are brazed to the mouth piece, with the end faces approximately at an even position, and the inside of the braid presser ring and/or the outside of the mouth piece comprises a circular recess or single recess that allows a solder to flow therein and serves as a stopper.

13. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the metal bellows tube has a pitch of the bellows of 2 mm or less, and a height of the ridge of 1 - 4 mm.

14. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the thickness of the wall of the bellows-shaped tube is 0.1 - 0.5 mm.

15. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the metal bellows tube has an inside diameter of 4 - 17 mm.

16. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the metal bellows tube is formed by the production method of claim 5.

17. (Original) The flexible tube of claim 7, wherein the above-described force F is 1374 – 17813 [N] and n = 4,
the metal bellows tube is made of stainless steel, and has an inside diameter of 4 - 17 mm and a thickness of the wall of the bellows-shaped tube of 0.1 - 0.5 mm, and
the metal braid has a structure wherein a densely braided layer comprising strands made of stainless steel and having a diameter of 0.3 mm in strand number of 6 - 10 is superposed in 2 to 6 layers on the outside of the metal bellows tube.

18. (New) The metal bellows tube of claim 2, wherein the tube has an outside diameter of 4.5 - 20 mm.

19. (New) The metal bellows tube of claim 3, wherein the tube has an outside diameter of 4.5 - 20 mm.